District Boards and Municipal Councils who have established toll-gates in their jurisdiction have also been asked to submit their views in regard to the partial exemption proposed.

Meantime, the Cotton Merchants of Davangere at a meeting held at Davangere on 19th October 1928, represented that the system of having a number of toll-gates within a short distance of each other acted prejudicially to the trade at Davangere. The President of the Chitaldrug District Board has sent proposals for the abolition of certain new gates now sanctioned.

At the last Session of the Representative Assembly a resolution was brought forward in regard to the abolition of the toll-gates except those situated in the frontiers. The Government replied that as the contract for the year 1928-29 had already been given for the several gates, nothing could be done till the end of the current official year and that the entire question would be referred to a Committee consisting of two or three Representative Assembly Members and a few Deputy Commissioners of Districts.

Government are accordingly pleased to appoint a Committee consisting of the following gentlemen to go into the question of reducing the number of toll-gates established on the several Provincial and District Board Roads and to submit their recommendation to Government within a period of two months :—

1. The Revenue Commissioner in Mysore (Chairman).
2. The Chief Secretary to Government.
3. The President, District Board, Bangalore.
4. The President, District Board, Hassan.
5. Mr. K. V. Anantharaman, Deputy Commissioner, Tumkur.
6. Mr. Nilgiri Sanjiviah, Member, Representative Assembly.
7. Mr. M. S. Linge Gowda, Member, Representative Assembly.

The Assistant Secretary to Government, Local Self-Government will be appointed as Secretary to the Committee.

The proposals of the Revenue Commissioner and of the District Boards that are received or that may be sent up in the matter will be forwarded to the Committee for consideration.

N. MADHAVA RAO,
Chief Secretary to Government.

DEVELOPMENT SECRETARIAT.

Reviews the report on the working of the Amrut Mahal Department during the year 1927-28.

READ—

Report on the working of the Amrit Mahal Department during 1927-28, received with letter No. Per. 45-28, dated the 13th September 1928, from the Director of Agriculture, together with his introductory note thereon.

ORDER NO. D. 5268-69—A. M. 8-28-3, DATED 22ND NOVEMBER 1928.

Recorded.

The number of herds was increased during the year from 15 to 20. The kavals, particularly in Tumkur, Tiptur and Challakere Ranges suffered largely for want of rains; but a well considered utilisation of hot weather kavals and the sinking of temporary wells relieved the situation caused by unfavourable seasonal conditions.

Stock.—The number of animals in stock at the end of June 1928 was 5,733, as against 5,999 at the end of June 1927 and the birth-rate fell during the year to 31 per cent from 34 per cent. This fall in birth-rate can be traced to the excessive sale of heifers and young calves in the past and as this faulty practice has since been discontinued, Government trust that the birth-rate will come back to the normal.

Government are glad to observe that the mortality among the cattle fell from 945 during 1926-27 to 583 during the year under review working out to a death-rate of 9·87 per cent as against 14 per cent last year, the lowest on record since 1916-17. This satisfactory result was due partly to a general improvement in the condition of the cattle consequent on a better utilisation of grazing resources, and partly to timely recourse to preventive inoculation.

One hundred and ninety-one bulls were sold in auction sale during the year for Rs. 22,820 or at an average cost of Rs. 119 per head.

Missing Animals.—It is gratifying to note that the number of animals unaccounted for during the year was only 44 as against almost nine times that number in 1925-26 and 54 in 1926-27. This indicates more efficient supervision on the part of the officers of the Department and Government expect that the improvement in this direction will be maintained in future years.

Surrender of Kaval Lands.—During the year under review a Special Committee was formed consisting of the Revenue Commissioner as Chairman and the Director of Agriculture and the Amrit Mahal Superintendent as Secretary, to go into questions relating to the surrender of Amrit Mahal Kavals for meeting the keen demand for lands for cultivation; and as a result of the recommendations of the Committee, about 4,000 acres of lands have been surrendered to the Revenue Department in the Tumkur and Chitaldrug Districts. The total area surrendered during the year was 5,008 acres.

The balance outstanding at the end of the year was Rs. 53,854-7-1 including a sum of Rs. 44,718 relating to the period between 1923 and 1927 due from certain servegars of the Amrit Mahal Department. The Director of Agriculture has separately submitted proposals for writing off a large portion of the amount due from these servegars, and the question is under consideration. The Director is requested to take effective steps for the recovery of the amount due from other parties.

General.—Though there is a noticeable improvement in the work of the Amrit Mahal Department, Government agree with the Director of Agriculture, that the Department under the present system has not so far fulfilled the essential object of meeting the demand of the agricultural population for good cattle. It is probable that the operations are spread out over an area too extensive for efficient supervision and control, and that better results could be obtained by concentrating on a station or stations of more manageable dimensions conducted on scientific and intensive lines. The Director of Agriculture reports that he is working out proposals for the development of a breeding station such as would eventually place the Department in a position to supply at least 300 good breeding bulls to the Agriculturists of Mysore. Government await these proposals with interest.

N. RAMA RAO,
Secretary to Government,
Development Departments.

Reviews the Administration Report of the Government Gardens Department for the year 1927-28.

READ—

The Administration Report of the Government Gardens Department for the year 1927-28, received with letter No. Camp H. 10, dated the 21st October 1928, from the Director of Horticulture.

ORDER NO. D. 5656-7—G. G. 30-28-2, DATED 30TH NOVEMBER 1928.

Recorded.

Mr. H. C. Javaraya, Officiating Superintendent, Government Gardens, was in charge of the Department till the end of January 1928, when Mr. G. H. Krumbiegel, Director of Horticulture, resumed charge.

2. *Experimental and Scientific Work.*—The work on plant breeding which was started during the year 1926-27 was continued during the year under review and fruit culture was carried on as usual in the Government Botanical Garden, the Palace

Orchard and the Horticultural Farm. The Central Fruit Nursery in the Lal-Bagh was formed and laid out during the year. The tropical and sub-tropical fruit plants were well maintained and a number of them are reported to be bearing fruits now.

Among the several important plants dealt with in the Nursery, twenty-four cuttings of different varieties of Mulberry were obtained from the Sericultural Department, and planted. The Director is requested to bestow special attention to the improvement of the Mulberry plant. This work may be conducted in close consultation with the Sericultural Department, as it has to be co-ordinated closely with the rearing of silk worms. Large stocks of vegetable and fodder seeds were collected and sold during the year; spraying operations were pushed through on a large scale and the use of sprayers were popularised.

3. *Maintenance and Improvement of Gardens.*—The seasonal conditions were generally unfavourable for garden operations; but the gardens were nevertheless kept in good condition. The Lal-Bagh continued to be a popular pleasure resort. In the Cubbon Park, a marble statue of His Highness the late Sri Chamarajendra Wodiyar, was erected in a central place and several improvements were effected to make the several minor gardens more attractive. The nursery maintained by the Department at Daria Doulat Bagh in Seringapatam was financed by the Mysore District Board; it supplied nearly 5,000 plants for planting avenues and topes in the Mysore District.

4. *Economic Development Works.*—Among the economic activities of the Department, special mention may be made of the successful demonstration in the preservation of limes, grapes, pine-apples and mangoes. Some attention was also paid to Poultry Farming.

5. *Miscellaneous Items—Horticultural School, etc.*—There were two batches consisting of 16 students undergoing training in the Horticultural School. Of these, eight were scholarship holders, four being financed by the District Boards of Bangalore, Hassan and Chitaldrug. Beyond the construction of cisterns for storing water, nothing important was done in connection with Fruit Nursery. The economic plants raised in the Nurseries attached to the Waste Land Trial Plantations were mostly planted and are reported to be coming up well. Large quantities of *Dawana* seeds were distributed for cultivation in the State through District Economic Superintendents.

6. *Horticultural Farm, Bangalore.*—The seasonal conditions were unfavourable for the cultivation of Horticultural crops, the total rainfall being nearly 7·40 inches short of the average. The working of the Farm resulted in a profit of Rs. 2,747 as the result of careful cultivation and improvements.

7. *Hill Station.*—The Nandi Hill Station continued to grow in popularity and the number of visitors during 1927-28 constituted a record as will appear from the figures given in the margin. Government are pleased to observe that the amenities provided in this Hill Station are securing general recognition and trust that this increase in popularity will be maintained and improved in coming years.

Year.		Visitors.
1923-24	...	... 558
1924-25	...	... 581
1925-26	...	... 592
1926-27	...	... 664
1927-28	...	... 947

N. RAMA RAO,
Secretary to Government,
Development Departments.

GENERAL SECRETARIAT.

Reviews the Administration Report of the Mysore State Forces for the year 1927-28.

READ—

The Report of the Mysore State Forces for the year 1927-28, received with letter No. C. 213—28, dated 28th September 1928, from the Chief Commandant, Mysore State Troops.

ORDER NO. G. 6680—Mily. 204-28-3, DATED 3RD DECEMBER 1928.

Recorded.

2. Lt.-Col. C. R. H. P. Landon, C.B.E., D.S.O., continued in Command of the State Troops throughout the year. With a view to enable the Department to bestow